UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF BRAZIL

IPF:(1992-1996) $14 183 000

(BRA/87/007) - Integrated Forestry Development in the Northeast of Brazil (Supplementary Assistance)

Date of approval:	12 February 1992
Expected duration:	Seven years
Proposed executing agency:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agency:	Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$826 200 Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$2 308 400
Previous UNDP budget:	$2 088 900
Total UNDP budget:	$3 134 600

Project background

The Northeastern region of Brazil covers an area of 1,800,000 Km. and comprises nine states. Over 50 million people live in this region, which is the poorest and most depressed part of the country. Rainfall varies considerably and divides the area into four zones. One of the zones, known as "caatinga", is a semi-arid forest of small twisted trees which represents 56 per cent of the region. Wood is the major product of the "caatinga" and is harvested for lumber, stakes, fuelwood and for making charcoal. Other industrial and food products are also harvested from this forest. However, poor soil and water conservation practices, extensive deforestation for agricultural and grazing purposes and rapid population growth have resulted in progressive desertification and migration into other areas, increasing the risk of further damage to the environment.

In 1987, IBAMA, Rio Grande do Norte State, and UNDP/FAO started a technical co-operation project to promote the concept of integrated forestry development, preservation of natural forests, soil conservation and use of forestry products as food and fuel. This was to be achieved through the strengthening of the institutional and technical capacity of IBAMA and Rio Grande do Norte State institutions, enabling them to design and manage forestry development programmes in the Northeast.

To date the project has achieved the following important results: (1) studies for planning and defining better strategies and methodologies for sustainable management of the native vegetation of the semi-arid forests of the Northeast of Brazil; (2) hydrological and reforestation studies; (3) a market survey for wood and charcoal products; and (4) a forestry action plan for the State of Rio Grande do Norte, including forestry extension and environmental education. At present, the results of these studies and methodologies are being implemented in close co-ordination with state and municipal agricultural institutions, as well as rural producers, farmers and some NGO's.

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To cover three other Northeastern states, namely Pernambuco, Paríba and Ceará, the Government requested further UNDP assistance under the present approval.

Description of project

The immediate objective of the project is to extend project activities to cover three other Northeastern states, namely Pernambuco, Paraíba and Ceará, and undertake a forestry action plan for those states.

Project activities will include: (a) establishment of state counterpart personnel; (b) training of their staff; and (c) elaboration of basic studies to determine the supply and demand of forest products, especially for energy purposes and the elaboration of the forestry action plans.

Inputs

UNDP will provide international and national professional personnel, including specialists in forestry development (12 man-months), forestry extension (50 man-months), dendro-energy (18 man-months), multi-use forestry and environment (39 man-months), other consultants to be determined (17.5 man-months) and national professionals; subcontracts for technical studies; travel, especially within the Northeastern Region; fellowships, group training and in-service training for professionals of IBAMA and state technicians; equipment for hydrology and forestry inventories; aerial photo-interpretation, and educational media; administrative support, operation and maintenance; and sundry costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 974 200
Subcontract	306 600
Training	284 100
Equipment	308 700
Miscellaneous	261 000
Total	3 134 600

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